

**PRINthead ALIGNMENT TEST PATTERN AND
METHOD FOR DETERMINING PRINthead MISALIGNMENT**

ABSTRACT

A printhead alignment test pattern has spaced-apart images at least
5 partially aligned along an axis. Each image includes leading and trailing edge
portions having respective image-outermost leading and trailing edges spaced apart
along the axis and includes an intervening portion located between the leading and
trailing edge portions. The leading and trailing edge portions have a higher print
density than the intervening portion. A method for determining a printhead
10 misalignment of a printer prints the test pattern, moves a sensor along the axis over
the images, obtains data from the sensor, determines the locations along the printhead
scan axis of the leading and/or trailing edges of the images using the data, and
calculates the printhead misalignment from the determined locations of the leading
and/or trailing edges of the images. The test pattern reduces cockling of the print
15 media which improves the accuracy of the method.